

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 23, 2021

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

Romans 8:15

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 91 (p. 817)

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence.

**He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.**

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the LORD, who is my refuge—

then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

You will tread upon the lion and the cobra;

you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

“Because he loves me,” says the LORD, “I will rescue him;

“I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

“He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honor him.

“With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.”

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

Come, O Come, Thou Quickening Spirit

Come, O come, thou quick'ning Spirit, God from all eternity!
May thy power never fail us; dwell within us constantly.
Then shall truth and life and light banish all the gloom of night.

Grant our hearts in fullest measure wisdom, counsel, purity,
That we ever may be seeking only that which pleaseth thee.
Let thy knowledge spread and grow, working error's overthrow.

Show us, Lord, the path of blessing; when we trespass on our way,
Cast, O Lord, our sins behind thee and be with us day by day.
Should we stray, O Lord, recall; work repentance when we fall.

Holy Spirit, strong and mighty, thou who makest all things new,
Make thy work within us perfect and the evil foe subdue.
Grant us weapons for the strife and with vict'ry crown our life. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Gracious God, we approach you as your children, filled with the Holy Spirit by whom we are enabled and emboldened to cry, "Abba! Father!"

All: You know us even better than we know ourselves; none of our sins are hidden from your sight. It grieves us that we continually fall short of what your Word commands.

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, and cause us to walk in your ways. Work in us by your Holy Spirit so that we will always seek to do what is pleasing in your sight.

All: Give us a growing desire to joyfully serve you and one another as we follow after our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Ezekiel 36:25-28

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Isaiah 9:1-7

Congregational Response

Hymn 335

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would gracious be;
And with words that help and heal would thy life in mine reveal;
And with actions bold and meek would for Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would truthful be;
And with wisdom kind and clear let thy life in mine appear;
And with actions brotherly speak my Lord's sincerity.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would mighty be;
Mighty so as to prevail where unaided man must fail;
Ever by a mighty hope pressing on and bearing up.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would holy be;
Separate from sin, I would choose and cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be, give to him who gave me thee! Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 45. *What is the first commandment?*

A. The first commandment is: “You shall have no other gods before me.”

Q. 46. *What is required in the first commandment?*

A. The first commandment requires us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.

Q. 47. *What is forbidden in the first commandment?*

A. The first commandment forbids the denying, or not worshiping and glorifying, the true God as God, and our God; and the giving to any other of that worship and glory due to him alone.

Q. 48. *What are we especially taught by the words, “before me,” in the first commandment?*

A. These words, “before me,” in the first commandment teach us that God, who sees all things, takes notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other god.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 735

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Romans 8:1-17

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 117])

Hymn 7 (printed on p. 12)

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.

In every land begin the song;
To every land the strains belong.
In cheerful sound all voices raise
And fill the world with joyful praise.

Eternal are your mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends your word.
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

What Difference Does the Holy Spirit Make?
He Enables Us to Experience the Peace of Christ in Our Souls
John 14:27

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 691

It Is Well with My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin—O the bliss of this glorious thought!—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
“Even so”—it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

May the grace of Christ our Savior
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.

Monday, May 24

Scripture: 2 Samuel 4:1 - 6:23; John 13:31 - 14:14; Psalm 119:17-32; Prov. 15:31-32

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 23

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, May 25

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1 - 8:18; John 14:15-31; Psalm 119:33-48; Proverbs 15:33

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 100

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, May 26

Scripture: 2 Samuel 9:1 - 11:27; John 15:1-27; Psalm 119:49-64; Proverbs 16:1-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 101

Pray for: Our covenant children, and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Brunei and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, May 27

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:1-31; John 16:1-33; Psalm 119:65-80; Proverbs 16:4-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 102

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, May 28

Scripture: 2 Samuel 13:1-39; John 17:1-26; Psalm 119:81-96; Proverbs 16:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 103

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.
Our pregnant moms.

Saturday, May 29

Scripture: 2 Samuel 14:1 - 15:22; John 18:1-24; Psalm 119:97-112; Proverbs 16:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 104

Pray for: The preaching, and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, May 30

Scripture: 2 Sam. 15:23 - 16:23; John 18:25 - 19:22; Ps. 119:113-128; Prov. 16:10-11

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 105

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

MISSIONS CORNER

Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.

Ray & Michele Call | Presbyterian Church in Belize

rcall@mtwsa.org; mcall@mtwsa.org

Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

dahlfred@gmail.com

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

ebyuganda@gmail.com

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

When Jesus told his disciples that he was going to leave them, they became troubled. Jesus had been with them for years, teaching and guiding them. They expected him to remain indefinitely and at some point to establish his Messianic kingdom on earth. Instead, Jesus told them that he was going to ascend to the Father, but he was not going to abandon his disciples. He and the Father would send the Holy Spirit who would continue Jesus' ministry by applying his finished work of redemption to the hearts of his people. Jesus was going to die on the cross for the sins of his people, and by his death, he would secure peace between them and God. While many in the world seek peace by trying to end wars and conflicts among nations and people, Christ alone can secure peace between God and his people. He did this by bearing the wrath of God in their place. Jonathan Edwards explains in his sermon titled "The Peace Which Christ Gives His True Followers," written in 1750:

Christ has procured for them peace and reconciliation with God, and his favor and friendship, in that he satisfied for their sins and laid a foundation for the perfect removal of the guilt of sin, and the forgiveness of all their trespasses, and wrought out for them a perfect and glorious righteousness, most acceptable to God, and sufficient to recommend them to God's full acceptance, to the adoption of children, and to the eternal fruits of his fatherly kindness.

1. For review, read John 14:1-26. What are some of the ways Jesus says the Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of true believers?
2. When Jesus speaks of peace in John 14:27, why is it significant that he refers to it as "my" peace? What kind of peace did he have with the Father? Why was Jesus able to give it to others?
3. Read Romans 5:1-11 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. How do these passages explain how Jesus secured peace with God for his people?
4. Read John 14:27 again and consider ways in which the world attempts to give us peace. Why is the peace of Christ superior?
5. How do you experience the peace of Christ in your own life? How do you think knowing that you have peace with God through faith in Christ should affect your relationships with others?

From All That Dwell below the Skies

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Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. Ps. 117:1

1. From all that dwell be - low the skies let the Cre -
2. In ev - ery land be - gin the song; to ev - ery
3. E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, Lord; e - ter - nal

a - tor's praise a - rise; let the Re - deem - er's name be
land the strains be - long. In cheer - ful sound all voic - es
truth at - tends your word. Your praise shall sound from shore to

sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue.
raise and fill the world with joy - ful praise.
shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

Based on Psalm 117
Isaac Watts, 1719; mod.

DUKE STREET L.M.
John Hatton, 1793